

## Revisions to the PEOSH Standards Regarding the Reporting of Work-Related Injuries & Illnesses



Public Employee Alert # 27
Safety & Health Bulletin
ATTENTION: All Public Employers
September 2003

This Safety Alert is being sent as a result of amendments to the Recording and Reporting of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Standard (29CFR 1904). This includes a change to the procedures for reporting work-related injuries and illnesses.

Please ensure that this information is shared with all appropriate personnel.

## ATTENTION! Reporting Procedures Changed on May 5, 2003

On May 5, 2003, New Jersey amended its Recording and Reporting Occupational Injuries & Illnesses Regulations to reflect the Federal OSHA Standard. This regulation was adopted by reference upon publication in the New Jersey Register on May 5, 2003, Volume 35, Number 9, Beginning on N.J.R. 1920 (see attached). The newly adopted regulation requires the public sector employer to report to the Commissioner of Labor all work related fatalities or **in-patient hospitalization of three (3) or more workers, orally and in writing, within eight (8) hours of occurrence.** 

## **UPDATE**

Employers are only required to report in-patient hospitalizations of three or more employees. Employers are no longer required to report every inpatient hospitalization.

(Continued on Reverse)

For purposes of clarification, the work-related environment is comprised of the physical location, equipment, materials processed or used, and the kinds of operations performed in the course of an employees' work, whether on or off the employer's premises. Work-related injuries and illnesses arise from an event or exposure in the work environment. The work environment is the employer's premises or other location where employees are engaged in work related activities or are present as a condition of their employment. In the event that the individual responsible for reporting is not sure whether the incident is work-related or not, a report is to be made

The oral report shall be made directly to the 24-hour hotline number listed below. The written report shall mean the execution of the "Employer's First Report of Accidental Injury or Occupational Disease". The completed form must be faxed to the Office of Public Employees' Occupational Safety & Health

24 Hour Hotline for Reporting of Public Employee Work Related In-patient Hospitalization or Fatality:

800-624-1644

Fax 609-292-3749

In-patient Hospitalizations of three or more employees and all fatalities must be reported within 8 hours of the event.

## PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYERS WILL BE SUBJECT TO A PENALTY OF \$250.00 PER DAY FOR EACH REPEAT VIOLATION OF THESE MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Any employer who willfully or repeatedly violates the requirements of the Public Employees' Occupational Safety and Health Act shall be assessed a civil administrative penalty of up to \$70,000 for each violation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:6A-41d.

For Additional Information on Public Employee Safety and Health Contact:

Safety Issues, Recordkeeping,
Discrimination Complaints and
Administration
New Jersey Department of Labor
Office of PEOSH
P.O. Box 386
Trenton, NJ 08625
(609) 292-0767
(800) 624-1644



Health Issues
New Jersey Department of Health
and Senior Services
PEOSH Program
P.O. Box 360
Trenton, NJ 08625-0360
(609) 984-1863